

## When can you retire?

**Eligibility for regular retirement requires that you have one of the following criteria met (LA R.S. 11.601):**

Primary Component (must have at least 10 years of correctional time in a security capacity immediately prior to application for retirement)

- 10 year at age 60 retirement option
- 20 years at any age if hired on or prior to 08/15/86
- 20 years age 50 if hired after 08/15/86 (only 2/3's of regular service credit is eligible)
- 25 years at any age if hired after 08/15/1986 as a Correctional Officer (effective 07/01/99)

### Secondary Component

- 25 years at any age
- 10 years at age 60 by Attorney General Opinion #03-0143 and rule adopted by LASERS

## What about benefits?

LASERS urges you to submit a written request for an estimate of retirement benefits one year prior to retirement. Your estimate will be calculated to include benefits payable under the options in effect at your expected date of retirement. The retirement benefit is payable to you for your lifetime.

### Primary Component

2-1/2% X years of service X Average Compensation

### Secondary Component

3-1/3% X years of service X Average Compensation

Your final average compensation is the average earned compensation you received during your

highest 36 months of successive employment, or the joined months of employment if a break in service occurred.

## Is there a choice between Primary or Secondary Component?

Those hired prior to or on December 31, 2001, had the choice to remain in the Primary Component, or to enter the Secondary Component. The form 16-1 *Department of Corrections Transfer Election Agreement* form had to be completed if a member chose to enter the Secondary Component. **The choice was irrevocable.**

**All new hires, effective January 1, 2002, must enter the Secondary Component.**

## Disability retirement eligibility

Primary Component: Disability sustained in the performance of official duties of a hazardous nature receive 60% of average compensation regardless of years

Secondary Component: Disability sustained in the performance of official duties of a hazardous nature receive:

- 40% of average compensation, if less than 10 years, or
- benefits as provided under the regular formula, if more than 10 years.

## Survivor Benefits

1. If member has died **other than in the line of duty** and has minimum of 10 years of service (2 immediately prior to death), or had 20 years of service

### Primary Component:

a. no spouse but a minor or disabled child, benefits are greater of 75% of AC, or \$300;

b. spouse but no minor child, benefits are greater of 50% of AC, or \$200;  
c. spouse with custody of minor/disabled child, benefits for spouse are greater of 25% of AC, or \$100. Benefits for child are greater of 50% of AC, or \$300.

Secondary Component: same as Primary Component

2. If member **is killed in the line of duty while serving in his/her official capacity**

### Primary Component:

- a. Minor child/children of officers who had more than 5 years of service
- Benefit equals 75% of average compensation
- b. Minor child/children of officers who had less than 5 years of service
- Benefit equals 60% of average compensation
- c. Spouse only, officer had 25 years or more of service
- Benefit equals 75% of average compensation
- d. Spouse only, officer had less than 25 years of service
- Benefit equals 60% of average compensation
- e. Spouse with minor child/children
- Benefit equals 75% of average compensation (1/3 to spouse and 2/3 to child/children)

### Secondary Component:

- a. Minor child/children of officers with 25 years or more of service
- Benefit equals 75% of average compensation

b. Minor child/children of officers had less than 25 years of service

- Benefit equals 60% of average compensation

c. Spouse only, officer had 25 years or more of service

- Benefit equals 75% of average compensation

d. Spouse only, officer had less than 25 years of service

- Benefit equals 60% of average compensation

e. Spouse with minor child/children

- Benefit equals 75% of average compensation (1/3 to spouse and 2/3 to child/children)

### Eligibility to enter DROP

To be eligible to participate in the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP), a Correctional officer must meet regular retirement eligibility requirements.

### For additional information

- Dept. of Public Safety & Corrections, or
  - LASERS' Member Services Division
- (See back panel)

## LOUISIANA STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM LASERS

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# LASERS

LOUISIANA STATE EMPLOYEES'  
RETIREMENT SYSTEM

## Correctional Officers



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*Quality service that supports  
the quality of your life.*